

**Listing of the Claims:**

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

**Listing of Claims:****1-2. (Canceled)****3. (Previously presented) A computer system, comprising:**

a plurality of processors coupled together between which messages can be routed;  
an I/O controller coupled to one or more of said processors;  
at least one I/O device coupled to an I/O controller; and

wherein each processor is capable of detecting an error in a message sent from another processor in the system and reformatting the message to indicate to other of said processors that the message contains a transmission error;

wherein each of said messages between said processors comprises a header ticks and data tick, the data tick comprising error check bits, and wherein upon detecting an error has occurred in the message, the processor alters the data tick error check bits in a predetermined manner to indicate to other of said processors that the message contains an error.

**4. (Previously presented) A computer system, comprising:**

a plurality of processors coupled together between which messages can be routed;  
an I/O controller coupled to one or more of said processors;  
at least one I/O device coupled to an I/O controller;

wherein each processor is capable of detecting an error in a message sent from another processor in the system and reformatting the message to indicate to other of said processors that the message contains a transmission error;

wherein each of said messages between said processors comprises a header tick and a data tick, each tick comprising multiple bits of information, and wherein upon detecting an error has occurred in a data tick, the processor replaces the bits of information in the data tick with a predetermined bit pattern.

5. **(Original)** The computer system of claim 4 wherein said predetermined bit pattern includes a known double bit error code.

6-9. **(Canceled).**

10. **(Previously presented)** A processor, comprising:  
a memory controller that coordinates transactions to a memory device; and  
a router coupled to said memory controller and providing interfaces to one or more other processors;

wherein said router is capable of detecting a transmission error in a message received from another processor and reformatting the message to indicate that the message contains a transmission error that has already been detected;

wherein said message comprises a data block and a block comprising error check bits, and wherein upon detecting that a transmission error has occurred in the message, the router alters the error check bits in a predetermined manner to indicate that the message contains a transmission error.

11. **(Previously presented)** A processor, comprising:  
a memory controller that coordinates transactions to a memory device; and  
a router coupled to said memory controller and providing interfaces to one or more other processors;

wherein said router is capable of detecting a transmission error in a message received from another processor and reformatting the message to indicate that the message contains a transmission error that has already been detected;

wherein said message comprises a data block and a header block, and wherein upon detecting that a transmission error has occurred in the data block, the router replaces the bits of information in the data block with a predetermined bit pattern.

12. **(Original)** The computer system of claim 11 wherein said predetermined bit pattern includes a known double bit error code.

13-14. (Canceled)

15. (Original) A method of fault isolation in a multi-processor computer system, comprising:

- (a) receiving a message;
- (b) detecting an error in said message;
- (c) replacing the erroneous portion of said message with a predetermined bit pattern to indicate to other processors in said system that an error has occurred in said message and said error has already been detected; and
- (d) transmitting the message to another processor in said system.

16. (Canceled)

17. (Original) The method of claim 15 further including:

- (e) alerting the system that a fault has been detected in said message.

18. (Previously presented) The method of claim 17 further including:

- (f) receiving said message that has been altered in (c);
  - (g) determining whether said message includes said predetermined bit pattern;
- and
- (h) if said message includes said predetermined bit pattern, not alerting the system that a fault is present in said message.

19. (Original) The method of claim 18 further including:

- (i) transmitting said message with said predetermined bit pattern to another processor in said system.

20. **(Previously presented)** The method of claim 15 further including:

- (j) receiving said message that has been altered in (c);
- (k) determining whether said message includes said predetermined bit pattern;

and

(l) if said message includes said predetermined bit pattern, not alerting the system that a fault is present in said message.

21. **(Original)** The method of claim 20 further including:

(m) transmitting said message with said predetermined bit pattern to another processor in said system.